

We won't need **Sherlock Holmes** to figure out if **You Are There** at the 29th Friends of Old-Time Radio Convention October 21-24, 2004 Holiday Inn North, Newark you will have a good time.

Illustration by  
Dave Warren





**HARRY FLEETWOOD**



## SPECIAL GUESTS

**ARTHUR ANDERSON** – *Mercury Theater on the Air; Let's Pretend*

**GEORGE ANSBRO** – (Announcer) ABC

**JACK BIVANS** – *Capt. Midnight; Sky King*

**DON BUKA** – *Let's Pretend*

**PAUL CARNEGIE** – (Sound Effects, Actor)  
*The Lone Ranger; The Green Hornet*

**CLIFF CARPENTER** – *County Seat, Prairie Folk*

**JILL COREY** – (Singer); TV – Your Hit Parade

**SHIRLEY EGGLESTON** – *Crime Letter from Dan Dodge*

**FRED FOY** – (Announcer) *The Lone Ranger*

**BOB HASTINGS** – *Archie Andrews*; (TV) McHale's Navy

**PAT HOSLEY** – *A Brighter Day*

**WILL HUTCHINS** – (TV) *Blondie; Sugarfoot*

**ELAINE HYMAN** – *The Lone Ranger*

**WILL JORDAN** – Comedian, impersonations (Ed Sullivan; Jack Benny)

**JANE KEAN** – Singer; TV – *Honeymooners*; Radio: *Gordon MacRae*

**RUTH LAST** – *Let's Pretend, Quiet Please* (Television, movies, writer)

**JIMMY LYDON** – *Let's Pretend; Young Love*

**MILT MOSS** – Comedian (with Eddie Cantor; Phil Silvers) *Commercials*

**LOUISE O'BRIEN** – Singer (Mitch Miller); *Theater Work*

**CORINNE ORR** – *Theater Five; CBS Radio Mystery Theater*; (TV) voices for *Speed Racer*

**BILL OWEN** – (Announcer for Mutual)

**PAUL PETERSEN** – (TV) *Donna Reed Show*; (Singer) "My Dad"

**BOBBY RAMSEN** – *Let's Pretend, Dick Tracy* (TV and movie actor; Comedian)

**TED REID** – *Billy and Betty; March of Time*

**TED AND RUTH REINHART** – *Nostalgic*

**ROSEMARY RICE** – *Archie Andrews; Let's Pretend*; (TV) *I Remember Mama*

**LARRY ROBINSON** – *Let's Pretend*

**LYNNE ROGERS** – *The Guiding Light*

**JEAN ROUVEROL** – *One Man's Family*

**SOUPY SALES** – TV Personality; Radio – WXYZ (Detroit)

**ROBERT LOUIS SHAYON** – (Producer and director) *You Are There*

**HAL STONE** – Jughead in *Archie Andrews*; Author

**DICK VAN PATTEN** – *Aldrich Family; Duffy's Tavern*; (TV) *Eight is Enough*

**ELENA VERDUGO** – (TV) *Meet Millie*; Marcus Welby, MD

**JOHN (BUCK) WILKIN** – Singer (Ronny and the Daytonas)

**JANET CANTOR GARI** – Eddie Cantor's Daughter

**BRIAN GARI** – Eddie Cantor's grandson

**MARLA CANTOR** – Daughter of Charlie Cantor

**JERRY SAMBERG** – son of Benny Bell (Shaving Cream)

**PAT TIMBERG** – Daughter of Sammy Timberg, composer, especially of cartoon music

## AUTHORS

**MORTIMER FRANK** – Arturo Toscanini

**MICHAEL HAYDE** – *Dragnet*

**MARTIN GRAMS, JR.** – various books

**JOHN MEYER** – *Judy Garland*

**BEN OHMART** – various books

**JAMES PEGOLOTTI** – *Deems Taylor*

**SCOTT SCHECTER** – *Judy Garland*

**GARY YOGGY** – Various books

## This Convention is dedicated to JACKSON BECK

Also remembered are Jan Miner; Harry Bartell; Sam Edwards; Ann DeMarco; Mary Diveny; Les Tremayne; Harry Fleetwood; Tyler McVey

## SCHEDULE - 2004

All programs in the Lenox/Tiffany Rooms; All re-creations in the Dresden/Lenox/Tiffany Rooms

Readings, meetings in the Ascot Room

Rehearsals in the Dresden Room (All rehearsals are closed unless specified otherwise)

Dealers in Conference and Waterford Rooms

### **Wednesday Evening**

**Complementary Wine and Cheese from 6 pm to 10 pm.**

### **Thursday:**

The sound equipment and the stage will be set up. Dealers will be open at 9 am.

9:00 - 5:30	(Dealers)
12:15 - 1:00	OTR Publications (Derek Tague with Charlie Summers, Jack French and Dick
Olday)	
1:15 - 2:00	Digital OTR, the Mini Disc Solution (John Gallagher, Fred Berney)
2:15 - 3:15	One on One with Dick Van Patten; Hosted by Hal Stone
3:30 - 4:15	"Deems Taylor" with James Pegolotti
4:30 - 5:30	Tom Powers and friends reading (Superman)
5:30 - 8:00	Cocktails and Dinner; raffle
8:00 - 8:45	Original re-creation ( <b>You Are There</b> ) (Dir. by Arthur Anderson with All-star cast)
8:45 - 9:15	Meet Robert Louis Shayon
9:30 - 10:15	Those Were the Days Radio Players present Duffy's Tavern "Who Done it in
Dorset" with Jack Bivans	

### **Friday Morning and Afternoon**

9:00 - 5:30	(Dealers)
9:00 - 9:30	The Greatest Radio Actor (John Gallagher)
9:45 - 10:45	A Tribute to Jackson Beck (Anthony Tollin)
11:00 - 11:45	What's My Name? (Dave Zwengler)
12:00 - 12:45	Jack Benny in Cartoons (Michael Hayde, Derek Tague)
1:00 - 2:00	Bob and Ray (Hal Stone, Bob Hastings)
2:15 - 3:30	Comedy Panel (Derek Tague, Mary Lou Wallace with guests; Elena Verdugo, Jane Kean, Bobby Ramsen, Will Hutchins, Milt Moss, Will Jordan)
3:45 - 4:30	One on One with Arthur Anderson (Dave Zwengler)
4:45 - 5:30	(Re-creation) Gotham Radio Players; Original presentation "The Battle of the Warsaw Ghetto" by Morton Wishengrad

### **Friday Evening**

5:30 - 7:45	Cocktails and Dinner, raffle
8:00 - 8:45	(Re-creation) <b>Great Scenes from Great Plays</b> ; Dir. by Arthur Anderson)
9:00 - 9:30	Ted and Ruth Reinhardt present a Nostalgia Show
9:40 - 9:50	The Bickersons with Rosemary Rice and Bob Hastings
10:00 - 10:40	(Re-creation) <b>My Favorite Husband</b> with Paul Petersen; (Dir - Gary Yoggy)



## Saturday Morning and Afternoon

9:00 – 3:00 (Dealers)

10:15 – 11:45 Master class with the Absegami Emanon Players; They present SUSPENSE “The Screaming Woman.” (A Anderson and others commenting)  
Sutton Room

12:45 – 1:45 The National Audio Theatre Festivals presents Sue Zizza and David Shinn demonstrating the art of manual Sound Effects. This workshop is dedicated to their mentor and friend Al Schaffer who passed on September 23, 2004. Sutton Room

9:00 – 9:45 Who Wants to be a Millionaire (Mitchell Weisberg)  
10:00 – 10:45 Husband and Wife Detective Teams (Jack French)  
11:00 – 11:45 Arturo Toscanini (Mortimer Frank with possible Walfredo Toscanini, grandson)  
12:00 – 12:45 Re-creation; David Warren Players “Baby Snooks”  
1:00 – 1:45 Children’s Shows (George Downs)  
2:00 – 2:45 Remembering Judy Garland (Gari Yoggy, Scott Schecter, author, John Meyer, author and companion and Roberto Gari, artist)  
3:00 – 4:30 Singers, musicians and Big Bands, 8th annual (Stu Weiss and Brian Gari) with guests; Bucky Wilkin (Ronny and the Daytonas), Patricia Timberg, Jane Kean, Louise O’Brien, Jerry Samberg, Jill Corey  
4:45 – 5:30 Re-creation: **Sherlock Holmes “The Lost Special”** (Dir. by Bill Nadel)

## Saturday Evening

5:30 – 8:00 Cocktails and Dinner, raffle, awards,  
8:00 – 8:45 (Re-creation) **The Green Hornet** with Paul Carnegie (Anthony Tollin)  
9:00 – 9:30 Ted and Ruth Reinhart Present a Western show  
9:40 – 9:50 The Bickerson (Rosemary Rice and Bob Hastings)  
10:00 – 10:40 (Re-creation) **A Crime Letter from Dan Dodge with Shirley Eggleston and Dick Van Patten** (Don Ramlow)

## Sunday Morning

7:00 – 9:30 Breakfast in the restaurant  
9:30 – 11:00 Informal Panel in the Dresden Room

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

**Ascot Room will be available much of the time from Thursday through Saturday night. It should be used for interviews, meetings and readings.**

**1. No smoking in convention area and any other place on main floor. This means NO SMOKING in halls and near registration area.**

**2. Do not interview in hallways and please do not congest the registration area. Interviews are to be held in the Ascot room mentioned above.**

**3. Interviews and autographs are NOT to be gotten in the workshop rooms after the workshops. Use Ascot Room. We must get ready for the next workshop.**

**4. Complimentary coffee and muffins will be available early Thursday – Saturday mornings.**

**5. All of the sessions are being video recorded by Satellite Media Production. You may order them as a complete set or by individual sessions. Please contact Fred Berney at Satellite Media Production, P.O. Box 638, Walkersville, MD 21793-0638. Phone 800-747-0856. Email: berney@fred.net.**

**6. You can get information on the Friends of Old-time Radio Convention on our Web Site: FOTR Web site: <http://www.fotr.net>**

## **COMMITTEE AND WORKSHOP LEADERS**

### **GENERAL CHAIRMAN:**

Jay Hickerson

### **PROGRAM AND RE-CREATION DIRECTORS:**

Jack French, Arthur Anderson, Anthony

Tollin, Gary Yoggy, Bill Nadel, Don Ramlow, Max Schmid, Steve Lewis, John Gallagher, Randy Larson,

### **MUSIC COORDINATOR**

Ed Clute

### **PUBLICITY: WEB SITE**

Sean Dougherty, Charles Summers

### **CONVENTION GUEST COORDINATORS**

Jeff and Walt Muller

### **RIDE COORDINATOR**

Bill Nadel

### **SOUND ENGINEER**

Bill Siudmak

### **SOUND EFFECTS**

Bart Curtis, Anthony Tollin, Steve Lewis, Bill

Nadel

### **ALL OTHERS:**

Dave and Susan Siegel

Sue Zizza

Bob Burchett

Karen Hickerson

Jack French

Alice Anderson

Derek Tague

Ken Piletic

Fred Berney

Arlene Maher

Andy Blatt

Mitchell and Eva Weisberg

Michael Henry

George Downes

Fred Shay

Ron Lackmann

John Eccles, Jr.

Lora Palmer

Stu Weiss

Brian Gari

Joan Beck

Tom Powers

Paul Mellos

Harold Zeigler

Michael Hayde

Mary Lou Wallace

Dave Zwengler

## **FUTURE CONVENTION DATES:**

2005: October 20 – 23



## REMINISCING

Old-time radio buffs have been honoring the radio stars of yesteryear annually since 1971, when our first old-time radio convention was held. The popularity of the conventions has grown steadily over the past 30 years. The first convention hosted 4 special guests. This year we are honoring over 30 actors, actresses, writers, producers, directors and technicians from the East and West Coasts who made the age of radio a truly golden era. What better way to pay tribute to all our guests than to meet them in person at this, our 29th annual convention of the **FRIENDS OF OLD-TIME RADIO**, and express the enjoyment their performances brought and still bring to us.

The **FRIENDS OF OLD-TIME RADIO, Inc.** is a group of fans and collectors who meet once a year for this non-profit convention. All monies collected are used for hotel, transportation and other convention costs.

The **Allen Rockford Award** was established in 1979 following the death of Allen Rockford at the age of 35 on March 29. Allen was coeditor with Don Richardson of **Nostalgia Radio News**, an excellent monthly OTR publication. The publication started when Allen started his coverage of stations in central New York and Canada carrying Old-time radio. This led to **Nostalgia Radio News**. Allen was active in putting early radio on central New York stations and carried his own show called **Sounds of Yesterday** for several years on WRVO-FM in Oswego. He was an announcer and newscaster for WONO in Syracuse for many years. With Don Richardson, Allen also ran Double-R-Radio, a business specializing in tapes and recordings of old-time radio shows. Allen was an authority on early radio and constantly helped anyone who needed it.

### RECIPIENTS ALLEN ROCKFORD AWARD

1979	Ken Piletic	1992	Max Schmid	2001	Steve Lewis
1980	Charles Ingersoll		Gary Yoggy		Stu Weiss
	John Dunning	1993	Jack French		Michael Henry
1981	Charles Stumpf		Larry and John Gassman		Derek Tague
1982	Roger Hill	1994	Bill Bragg	2002	Mitchell Weisberg
1983	Ray Stanich		David Siegel		Art Pierce
1984	Jim Snyder	1995	Joe Webb	2003	Dave Zwengler
	Bob Burnham		Art Schreiber		Lora Palmer
1985	Dick Osgood		Bobb Lynes		Sean Dougherty
1986	Frank Bresee	1996	Bill Nadel		
1987	SPERDVAC		Don Ramlow		
1988	Barbara Watkins, Barry Hill	1997	Ed Clute		
1989	Bob Burchett,		Michael Sprague		
	Terry Salomonson	1998	Chuck Schaden		
1990	Don Aston, Dave Warren	1999	Charles Summers		
1991	Tom Monroe, Anthony Tollin	2000	Nana Clute		
			Mary Ramlow		
			Steve Hiss		

### FLORENCE WILLIAMS AWARD

1979	Raymond E. Johnson	1989	Florence Williams	1997	Rosemary Rice, Bob Mott
	Rosa Rio		Dwight Weist	1998	Dick Beals, Ted Reid
1980	Bob Prescott Jr.		Joe Franklin	1999	Pat Hosley
	Pete Prescott	1990	Margot Stevenson	2000	Will Hutchins
1981	Mike Warren		George Ansbro	2001	Ruth Last
1982	(None)	1991	Fran Carlon	2002	Bill Owen
1983	Arthur Anderson		Ray Erlenborn	2003	Hal Stone
	Fran Striker Jr.		Barney Beck		
1984	Don Richardson	1992	Ken Roberts		
	Jackson Beck		Pet Lynch		
1985	Ken Ross	1993	Lon Clark		
	Terry Ross		Adele Ronson		
	Mrs. Brace Beemer	1994	Bob Dryden		
	Jay Hickerson		Arthur Tracy		
1986	Max Schmid	1995	Earl George		
1987	Sidney Slon		Bob Hastings		
	Anthony Tollin	1996	Fred Foy		
1988	Bob Steele, Ezra Stone		Abby Lewis		
			Sybil Trent		

### RAY STANICH AWARD

Ron Lackmann (1996); Frank Buxton, Bill Owen, Tom DeLong (1997); John Dunning (1998); Martin Grams, Jr.(1999); Gary Yoggy (2000), Anthony Tollin,(2001); Jim Cox, Jay Hickerson (2002); Howard Blue (2003)

#### DONATIONS OVER THE YEARS

Frank Nelson Scholarship Fund  
Veteran's Bedside Network  
Thousand Oaks Library  
Episcopal Actor's Guild  
Kate Smith Foundation  
Broadcast Pioneers Library  
WBAI  
Museum of Television and Radio  
Society of Broadcast Engineers

Society for Singers  
Stephanie Joyce Kahn Foundation  
The Actor's Fund  
Billy Rose Collection, N Y Public Library  
Heller Memorial Foundation of AFTRA  
Yesterday USA  
Old-time Radio Digest (Internet)  
American Red Cross

#### WINNERS OF THE SCRIPT WRITING CONTEST

1995: Michael Giorgio "The Whistler" ...1996: Jim Nixon "The Lone Ranger" called "The Wizard" ...1997: Edgar Russell III "Kiss From a Little Old Lady" ...1998: Donald Dortmund "Our Miss Brooks" ...1999: Arlene Osborne "The Shadow" ...2000: Michael Leannah "Dragnet" parody ...2001: K E Bibeau "Fu Manchu" ...2002: Becky Beach and John Bell "War of the Worlds" Parody ...2003: Jim Cort "Maitland at Large" ...2004: Edgar Russell III "Triumph and Tragedy in the Air"

**Congrats on  
Another Great  
FOTR Convention!**



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## CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

2003

The Friends of Old-time Radio held its 28th Annual Convention from October 23 - 26, 2003 at the Holiday Inn, Newark, New Jersey. Celebrities who received awards were: **Paul Carnegle, Kathryn Crosby, Dori Anne Gray, Rupert Holmes, Jimmy Lydon, Betsy Palmer, Paul Petersen, Stu Phillips, Bobby Ramsen, Diane Renay, Julian (Jay) Rendon, Ira Skutch**. Other celebrities present were **Arthur Anderson, George Ansbro, Cliff Carpenter, Fred Foy, Bob Hastings, Pat Hosley, Will Hutchins, Elaine Hyman, Will Jordan, Teri Keane, Ruth Last, Bob Mott, Corinne Orr, Bill Owen, Cynthia Pepper, Joyce Randolph, Rosemary Rice, Larry Robinson, Lynne Rogers, Hal Stone, Beverly Washburn**. The guests socialized with fans, participated in panels and workshops and re-created 9 radio shows.

The convention began Wednesday Evening with complementary Wine and Cheese and informal visiting. Thursday Morning the dealers opened at 9 am. There were three afternoon panels: **We met Ira Skutch; Mitchell Weisberg** led "Who Wants to be a Millionaire;" **Tom Powers and his group** re-created "The Black Hood." We then had cocktails and dinner. 56 fans attended during the day. 176 fans and guests attended in the evening. **Arthur Anderson** directed **Jim Cort's** original script "Maitland at Large." "Those Were the Days Players" presented "Life With Luigi;" Then **Gary Yoggy** directed "My Friend Irma."

Friday began at 9:00 with the opening of the dealers room. **Charlie Callas** was a last minute guest; Fifty-three dealer tables were active during the convention. 260 people attended dinner with another 103 in the afternoon. Workshops and panels included the following: **Dave Zwengler** (quiz show); **A visit with Stu Phillips and Dori Anne Gray**; **Fred Berney** gave a presentation of "No School Today;" **Jack French with Jay Rendon** gave a panel on San Francisco Detectives; **Mitchell Weisberg** interviewed **Bob Hastings**; **Michael Hayde with Beverly Washburn** talked about **Dragnet**; **Derek Tague with Mary Lou Wallace** led a comedy panel with **Will Jordan**; **Hal Stone**; **Bobby Ramsen**; **Bob Hastings**, **Charlie Callas**, **Betsy Palmer**; There was an auction of various memorabilia related to the panel and it was won for \$300. The **Absegami Emanon Players**, a local high school group, presented "The Shadow,"

On Friday evening we had 4 re-creations: **Dragnet** directed by **John Gallagher**; the **Dave Warren Players** presented "Allen's Alley;" **Rosemary Rice and Bob Hastings** were "The Bickersons;" **Fred Foy** played the title role in "The Lone Ranger" directed by **Anthony Tollin**

Saturday the panels and workshops included the following: **Encoding and Mini Discs with George Downs and John Gallagher**; **Fred Waring** talk with **Peter Klefer**; **Lone Ranger Panel** with **Jim Nixon and Fred Foy**; **The Gotham Players** re-created **The First Nighter Program "For Pete's Sake"** led by **Steve Lewis and Max Schmid**; **Mitchell Weisberg** talked with **Jimmy Lydon**; **Anthony Tollin** and friends did a panel on **WXYZ**; **The Seventh Singers/Musicians** panel hosted by **Stu Weiss and Brian Gari** was a hit again; The panel consisted of **Paul Petersen**; **Rupert Holmes**; **Lalia Madriguera**; **Diane Renay**; **Kathryn Crosby**; **Quinn Lemley**; There was a surprise visit by **Ed Rambeau and Bud Rehak**, the composers of "Navy Blue," **Diane Renay's** big hit and her producer, **Dan Crewe**. It ended with a sing-a-long.

Saturday's events culminated with cocktails and buffet dinner for 291 people with another 146 coming for the day. After dinner **Gary Yoggy** directed an episode of **X-1**; **Arthur Anderson** directed **Fibber McGee and Molly**; **Anthony Tollin** also directed **Doc Savage**. **Ed Clute** supplied the music for this and other re-creations. **Bart Curtis with Bob Mott** supplied the sound effects.

Besides the awards mentioned earlier, the **Allen Rockford Award** was presented to **Dave Zwengler, Lora Palmer and Sean Dougherty** for their outstanding efforts in keeping radio and this convention alive. The **Ray Stanich Award** was given to **Howard Blue** for all the excellent writing he has done. A special **Florence Williams** award was given to **Hal Stone**. He has attended our convention for several years and have always been willing to help. Donations will be given to various organizations throughout the year.

Sunday morning found about 110 people having breakfast and listening to an entertaining and sometimes very hilarious panel consisting of **Cliff Carpenter, Bob Hastings, Pat Hosley, Jimmy Lydon, Bob Mott, Paul Petersen, Bobby Ramsen, Hal Stone, Beverly Washburn**. It was hosted by **Anthony Tollin**.

I again want to thank all the guests who were very gracious in granting interviews and giving of their time to be with us.



## JACK BIVANS

Starting his professional career as a child actor in the dramatized Ovaltine commercials on the early Little Orphan Annie radio program, Jack Bivans became one of the nation's leading juvenile and young adult actors in the network dramatic shows, soap operas and children's programs originating from Chicago during radio's heyday.

The veteran performer starred in over 10,000 network radio broadcasts, frequently being heard on as many as five different programs fed thru four networks and beamed over 800 radio stations each day. He also did over 300 television shows and 150 films for business and industry.

In the very early 1940's Bivans was featured in a variety of roles on soap operas such as Painted Dreams, Houseboat Hannah, The Guiding Light, Backstage Wife, Romance of Helen Trent, and Ma Perkins (in which he played Ma's nephew, Junior Fitz, for several years).

Interrupted by two years overseas service in the Air Force during 1944 and 1945, Bivans' additional concurrent or overlapping contract parts included the roles of Chuck Ramsey in Captain Midnight (7 years); Clipper King in Sky King (5 years); Butch Brent in Road of Life (3 years); Jimmie Cullen in Helpmate (2 years).

In addition to the kid shows and soap operas, nights and weekends during the 1940's and 1950's found Bivans featured in most of the Chicago-originated hour and half-hour network comedy and dramatic programs including, Uncle Walter's Dog House, Hot Copy, Author's Playhouse, The Shadow, The Hermit, Crime Files of Flammond, Meet the Meeks, The First Line, America In The Air, and Arch Oboler's Lights Out.

## MORTIMER H. FRANK

Mortimer Frank has a long and distinguished history as a music critic and journalist. A longtime contributing editor to Fanfare, he has written on music and literature for Opera News, International Record Review, Schwann-Opus, and The Chronicle of Higher Education. His published reviews and articles total over 500. He compiled and edited James Hunecker on Music and Musicians and has also served as historical recordings critic for National Public Radio. He has been honored with a Mellon Fellowship and a Grammy Award. Professor emeritus, City University of New York, Frank holds an M.A. in musicology and Ph.D. in English. He currently teaches at the Julliard School of Music in New York City.

Arturo Toscanini: The NBC Years has been in the making for 14 years. Frank's fascination with Toscanini started even earlier, in his twenties, stimulated by Toscanini's recordings of Beethoven. Frank went on to acquire all of his recordings and to read as much about the conductor as possible. Frank was a strong force in the creation of the Toscanini archive at Wave Hill, the maestro's New York home from 1941 to 1945, and he later served for many years as the curator of the archive. In that capacity he organized symposiums devoted to the conductor and was a consultant for the television broadcast and subsequent video "Toscanini: the Maestro."



## JANE KEAN

Actress-singer Jane Kean's most widely recognized role is "Trixie," the long-suffering wife of Art Carney's "Norton" in the classic TV comedy Jackie Gleason's *Honeymooners*, which was telecast weekly, 1966-70, and as specials, 1971-78, on CBS-TV.

Before, after and even during her appearances on *Honeymooners*, the versatile Ms. Kean played the Palladium in London, performed on twenty-four Ed Sullivan variety TV shows, co-starred with Mickey Rooney in the 1977 Disney movie musical, "Pete's Dragon," appeared in dozens of TV programs and starred in five Broadway shows, including "Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?"

Ms. Kean's career has been a series of successes which began almost by accident. Her older sister, Betty, an accomplished singer, dancer, and comedienne, was headed for an audition at New York City's Broadhurst Theatre. Jane, who had just returned to New York after six months schooling in London, accompanied Betty, "To give her moral support."

The producer of the play, "Hiya, Gentlemen" spotted the natural blonde Jane in the back of the theater, said she had the appearance of a key character he was casting, asked her to sing, and she won the part. The show opened in Hartford and ended in Boston but for Jane it was the beginning of her career as an international entertainer.

She went to Hollywood, won a role in the movie "Sailors on Leave," then, at her mother's request, returned to New York City where she studied at the Neighborhood Playhouse and developed a nightclub act of songs and impressions. She performed in New York's finest rooms, including the Copacabana, Versailles, and at the Waldorf Astoria.

"I was very fortunate to be seen by singer Kay Thompson, who had coached Judy Garland, and took me on as her protege. Kay played at my audition for the Broadway musical 'Early to Bed,' and I won the role of the soubrette. The show ran for more than a year."

"An agent saw me in 'Early to Bed' and soon after I had a movie contract with Fox, which -- unfortunately for me-- already had a stable of veteran voluptuous blondes, including Marilyn Monroe. My mother, who traveled with me, preferred New York City, so we returned to Broadway just in time to replace Jane Mansfield for six months in the lead of "Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?"

As if fate was in command, both Keans - Jane and Betty - starred at the same time in different productions of the musical, "Call Me Mister." Jane was at the Shubert Theatre in New York City and Betty was in the touring national company. When both shows closed almost simultaneously and agent suggested they put together an act for television's Ed Sullivan Show. They did.

The singing, dancing, stylishly comedic Kern sisters were an immediate hit on the Sullivan Show. Nightclubs and theater offers poured in and they were among the world's most sought after entertainers, appearing regularly in New York City at The Roxy, The Paramount, The Strand, The Copacabana; as well as in Chicago at the Chez Paree. After Sir Lew Grade, the legendary producer in the United Kingdom, saw the Kern sisters at the Copacabana he brought them to London where they played the Palladium.

In addition, they starred on Broadway for nine months in the musical, "Ankles Away."

After the *Honeymooners*, Ms. Kean continued her wide-range of activities appearing with national companies, in films, on television, and at dinner theaters.

Among the television series Ms. Kean has guest-starred are *Dallas*, *Facts of Life*, *General Hospital*, *Love*, *American Style*, *Growing Pains* and *Love Boat*.



Ms. Kean continues to be active, starring in a number of touring shows including "Gypsy," "Barefoot in the Park," "On Golden Pond," "Driving Miss Daisy," Stephen Sondheim's "Follies" and "Fiddler on the Roof."

## LOUISE O'BRIEN

Perhaps most famous as a featured singing star for four years on NBC's Sing Along With Mitch television show, Louise O'Brien has had an extensive career in theater, television and on the night club circuit. In addition, she was a frequent guest on the Tonight Show with Jack Paar and Johnny Carson; spent three seasons as singing star of CBS' Best in Music show, co-starred with Pat Boone on an ABC series; guested on the Arthur Godfrey Show, NBC Telephone Hour, The Red Skelton Show and made several television appearances with Merv Griffin, Joey Bishop, Regis Philbin and Phil Donohue.

Ms. O'Brien's theater appearances include "Music Man," "Oklahoma" (25th anniversary production), "Brigadoon," "Carousel," "South Pacific," "Guys & Dolls" and "Lil Abner." She was heard on radio with Art Linkletter, (House Party), Rusty Draper, Tex Ritter and Tennessee Ernie Ford. Her night club work has found her in Las Vegas, Aruba, Montreal, Chicago, New York City and Puerto Rico.

In 1984 she was the guest performer for the first US/Chinese Delegation Dinner in Los Angeles with Steve Allen as Master of Ceremonies. Over the years she has continued an active career singing on a variety of special programs.

## JAMES PEGOLOTTI

James Pegolotti, born in 1933, grew up near Eureka, California in Northern California and could only hear the national network shows at night, when the San Francisco stations (270 miles to the south) could be heard. He gained a Ph.D. in chemistry from UCLA, then taught the subject for 15 years (St. Peter's College, Jersey City), then moved into college administration (Western Connecticut University), and later became a librarian there. He retired in 1999 to write a biography of Deems Taylor. He also writes concert reviews for the News-Times of Danbury, Connecticut.

## TED AND RUTH REINHART

The marriage of Ted and Ruth Reinhart in 1955 not only united husband and wife, but gave root to an entertainment team which continues to endure today. Their show business background predates the afternoon their vows were spoken. Ruth began professional singing at age fourteen. Ted entered broadcasting as an eighteen year old. Their peers identify the Reinharts as "having a marriage made in music." Music brought them together and keeps them together, all over the nation. From Maine to Florida, Pennsylvania to California, Ted and Ruth have performed at most every conceivable venue.

They have worked along side with many of the major names in entertainment over TV and conventions. Twelve albums and numerous singles bear the Reinhart recording credits. Their legendary



radio series which blankets Central Pennsylvania commenced in 1958, becoming the longest continuous running show in their state and third in the nation. Their annual telethon, which originated in 1975 to benefit the disabled, is one of the most successful in the United States.

The King and Queen of Nostalgia, as they re introduced on radio, well defines Ted and Ruth's music...nostalgic, pure and simple. "Western" is their specialty, but their shows include classic pop, big band and inspirational. A touch of comedy wends its way into all their performances.

Ted and Ruth Reinhart have been the recipients of over 35 awards for their performance abilities and dedication to their craft.

## JEAN ROUVEROL

Jean Rouverol Butler is an actress, a teacher, a writer for books, magazines, television and film, a survivor of the blacklist and a member of the 1973 Women's Committee of the WGA's. Ms. Butler's screenplays include Legend of Lylah Clare, Face in the Rain, and So Young, So Bad. She has many Daytime Television credits, writing for such series as As the World Turns, Guiding Light and Search for Tomorrow. Her books include: Writing for Daytime Drama, Writing for the Soaps, Storm Wind Rising, Juarez, A Son of the People, Pancho Villa, A Biography, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Woman Crusader. She has also written novellas for magazines including McCalls, Housewife and Seventeen. Because of the blacklist, Ms. Butler lived in Mexico from 1951 to 1960, in Italy till 1963, and back in Mexico until the end of 1964. Then, when the blacklist was beginning to lift, she and her family returned to California. WGA's is currently restoring the credits on "Autumn Leaves" and investigating credit on "The Miracle," two uncredited films written (in collaboration) during the blacklist. She is currently working on a memoir of the Mexico years, entitles We Happy Few, a portion of which was published in WGA's "Written By," in October 1997. Ms. Butler has taught at USC, UCLA Extension, and in 1994 she lectured on US Daytime Drama in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Ms. Butler is a recipient of the WGA's Morgan Cox Award, an Emmy for Invisible Soldiers, and WGA Award for Best Daytime Writing for Guiding Light. As a member of the WGA, she has served four terms on the Board of Directors and is a three-time member of the negotiating committee.

Her other professional affiliations include AMPAS Documentary Committee, and ATAS Board of Governors.

## SCOTT SCHECHTER

Scott Schechter has produced, compiled, consulted on, and written for a multitude of media projects on Judy Garland and her family, including the CD's Judy at Carnegie Hall: Fortieth Anniversary Edition; Liza Minnelli: Ultimate Collection; the definitive 4-CD/video box set Judy; and The Judy Garland Show: The Show That Got Away, along with the award-winning DVD releases of The Judy Garland Show. He is author of the critically acclaimed Judy Garland: the Day-By-Day Chronicle of a Legend.



## ROBERT LEWIS SHAYON

Robert Lewis Shayon was a writer-director-producer for CBS Radio from 1942 to 1950 where he headed the CBS documentary Unit under Edward R. Murrow. Mr. Shayon was responsible for many highly acclaimed programs including *You Are There* for which he won the Peabody Award and the New York Critics Circle award. Another success was *Operation Crossroads* in which participated such distinguished individuals as Albert Einstein, Justice William O. Douglas, poet Archibald MacLeish, and General George C. Kenney.

Mr. Shayon was also associated with "Casey, Crime Photographer," "The Commandos," and "Good Listening" starring Rose Marie. In addition, he directed a number of episodes of "Suspense."

Following this, Mr. Shayon became a television critic for *Saturday Review* magazine from 1950 to 1972; and professor at the Annenberg School for Communication from 1964 to 1990. He has lectured on telecommunications in the United States, Europe, Israel and Japan.

Author of such noted books as *Television and Our Children*, *Open to Criticism*, and *The Crowd Catchers - Introducing Television*, Mr. Shayon recently completed his autobiography *Odyssey in Prime Time*.

Mr. Shayon and his wife, writer Nash Cox, are delighted to be participating in their first Friends of Old Time Radio convention!

## ELENA VERDUGO

While she was never awarded a Universal contract, vivacious and stunning Elena Verdugo displayed her unique talent in two of the studio's classic horrors of the 1940's. Her performance in one of these films was to be among the finest to come out of any Universal chiller.

Verdugo was born April 20, 1925, in Paso Robles, California. She began training as a dancer at age five, and made her film debut in the western *Cavalier of the West* with Harry Carey, Sr. in 1931. However, it was as a teenager that she first attained notice for her screen work. In 1940, she appeared briefly but successfully in the film that launched Betty Grable to stardom, *Down Argentine Way*. The 20th Century Fox production also featured Don Ameche, Carmen Miranda, J. Carrol Naish and Leonid Kinskey.

Her work in the 1942 film *The Moon and Sixpence* resulted in even greater critical acclaim. It featured George Sanders as artist Paul Gauguin, and was based on W. Somerset Maugham's fictionalized account of the painter's life. The United Artists release also co-starred Herbert Marshall and Eric Blore. Verdugo was cast as a native girl romantically involved with Sander's character.

Her Universal debut, as well as her first venture into the realm of horror films, came in 1944. She was cast as Ilnka the gypsy girl in the all-star monster rally *House of Frankenstein*. The film featured almost all of the monster icons so popular in the 1940's, as well as many of the most recognizable stars of the genre.

Later that year, Verdugo appeared with Lon Chaney, Jr. again in *The Frozen Ghost*. The fourth of the studio's *Inner Sanctum* thrillers, it was also the final Universal credit for actress Evelyn Ankers.



Verdugo was cast in the role of Nina Coudreau, and found herself menaced by a psychopathic Martin Kosleck until Chaney saved her from a fiery death in the climactic scene. Although filmed in mid 1944, *The Frozen Ghost* didn't find its way into theaters until June 1945.

Verdugo would appear in both "A" and "B" pictures throughout the 1940's and 1950's. In 1949, she was featured opposite Johnny Weissmuller in the Jungle Jim feature *The Lost Tribe*. She also co-starred with Roland Winters in the Charlie Chan mystery *Sky Dragon*, which also featured Keye Luke and Mantan Moreland.

She was cast in another major release in 1950, appearing opposite Jose Ferrer and Mala Powers in *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Also on hand were two other well-known Universal horror film alumni, Virginia Christine and Lloyd Corrigan. Ferrer garnered an Oscar for his performance in the 17th century tale.

During this period, Verdugo became a favorite leading lady in western films, appearing opposite some of the biggest names of the genre. She worked with the ever popular Gene Autry in *The Big Sombbrero* in 1949, and Gene Autry and the Mounties in 1951. In the former title, she gave Autry his first screen kiss in a Columbia feature.

She appeared alongside Charles Starrett, the Durango Kid, in Columbia's *El Dorado Pass* in 1949. The next year she worked with her friend Kirby Grant in one of his popular Northwest Mountie titles for Monogram Pictures, *Snow Dog*. Grant had been in attendance at Verdugo's wedding four years earlier. In 1952 she was back at Columbia, co-starring with George Montgomery in *The Pathfinder*.

Television was becoming more than a novelty in the early 1950's, and many Hollywood stars were beginning to appear in the medium quite frequently. Verdugo did so as well, and was cast in the title role for the series "Meet Millie" by CBS in 1952. The program was a hit and continued on the airwaves until 1956. Other regulars on the program were Marvin Kaplan, Roland Winters, Ross Ford and Florence Halop. Verdugo and Kaplan have maintained a close friendship to this day.

The actress continued her film and television work into the 1960's. In 1969, she returned to Universal again for yet another television series. The ABC network drama "Marcus Welby, M.D." debuted that year, following a successful TV movie, with Robert Young in the title role. It would run until 1976. So popular was the program that Young would become the nation's archetypical family practitioner. Verdugo and James Brolin headed the supporting cast, she as receptionist Consuelo Lopez and he as the brash young Dr. Steven Kiley.

Verdugo and Young were featured in a reunion show, "The Return of Marcus Welby, M.D." in 1984.

## JOHN BUCK WILKIN

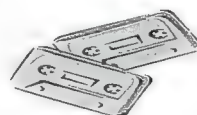
John Buck Wilkin, the son of Marjorie Wilkin (author of the country classic "Long Black Veil"), is most noted as a session guitarist on numerous country and rock records of the 1970s, particularly outlaw country releases by Waylon Jennings, Kris Kristofferson, Kinky Friedman, and Jessi Colter. He was also a songwriter and put out a little-known solo LP, *In Search of Food, Clothing, Shelter, Sex on Liberty*. The record was easygoing, though sometimes moodily eccentric, country-folk-rock with frequent orchestration. Prior to his solo album, Wilkin had been in Ronnie and the Daytonas, famous for their 1964 hot rod hit "Little GTO." Wilkin was also in the American Eagles (not to be confused with the much more famous Eagles), who also included keyboardist Chuck Leavell.



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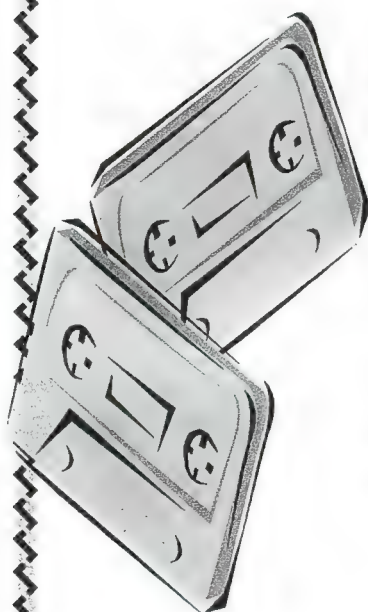
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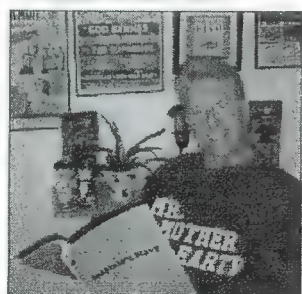
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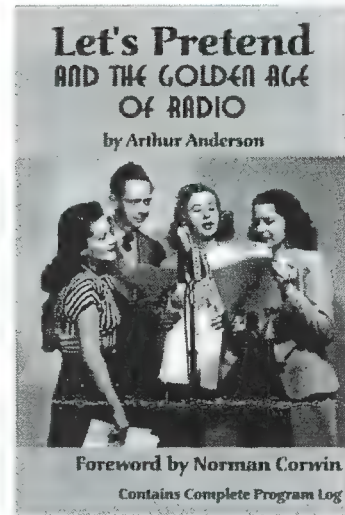
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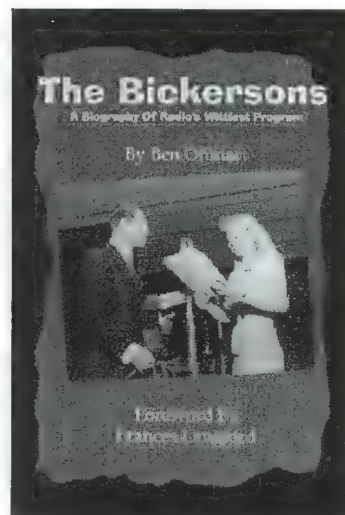
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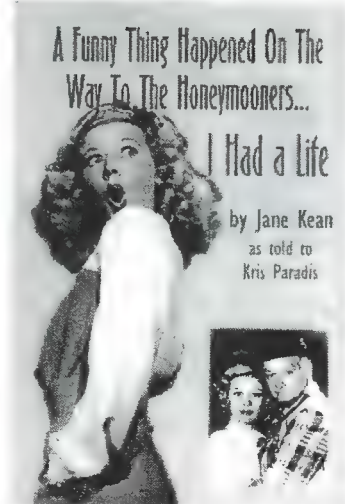
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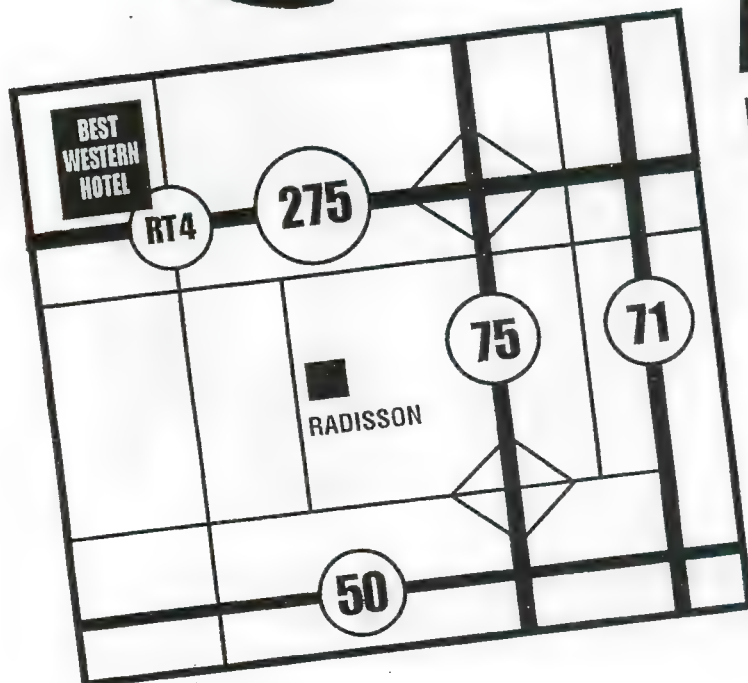
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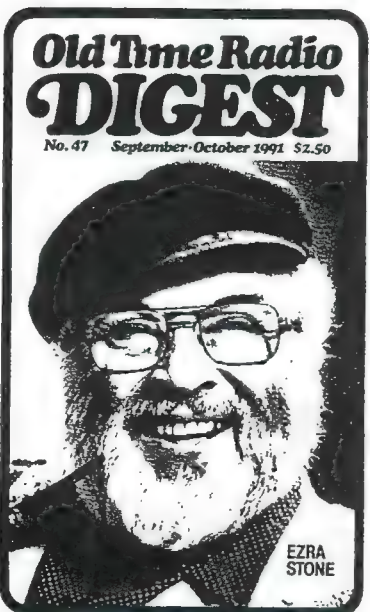
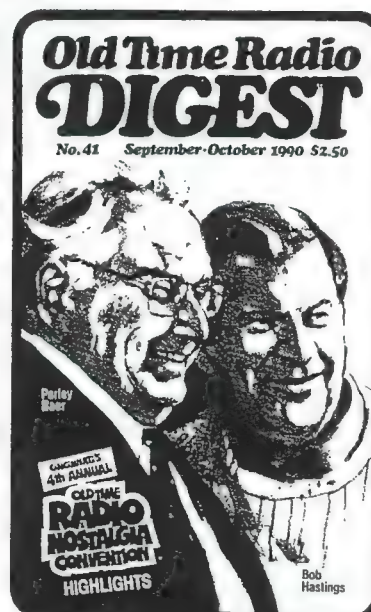
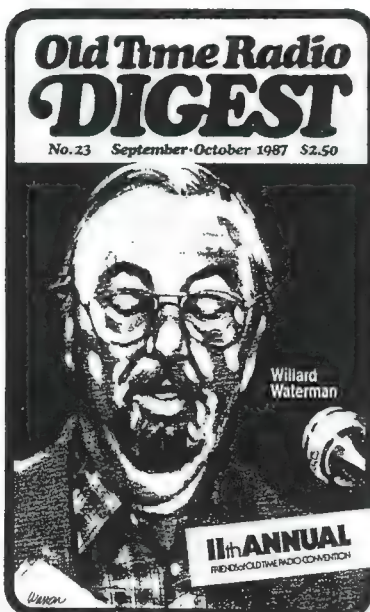
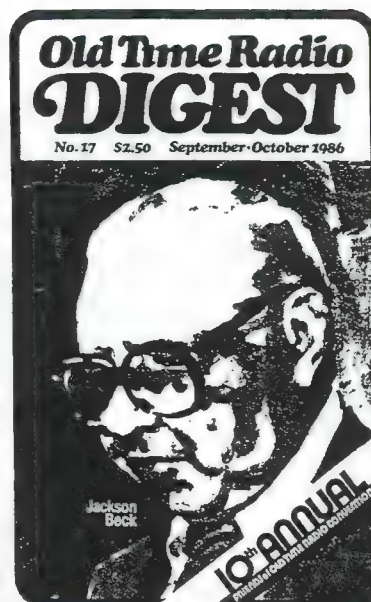
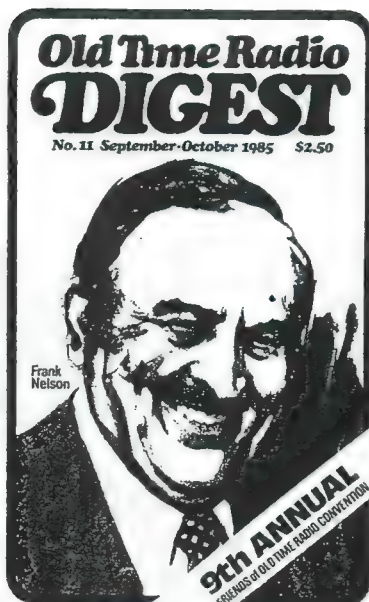


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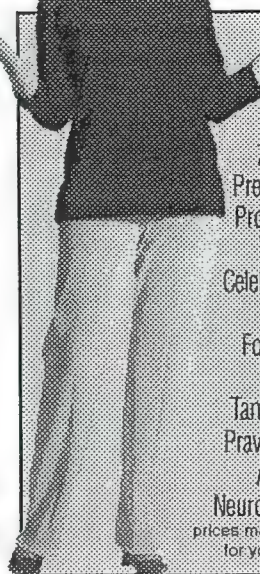
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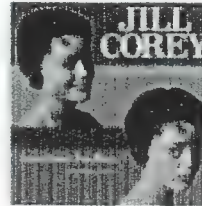
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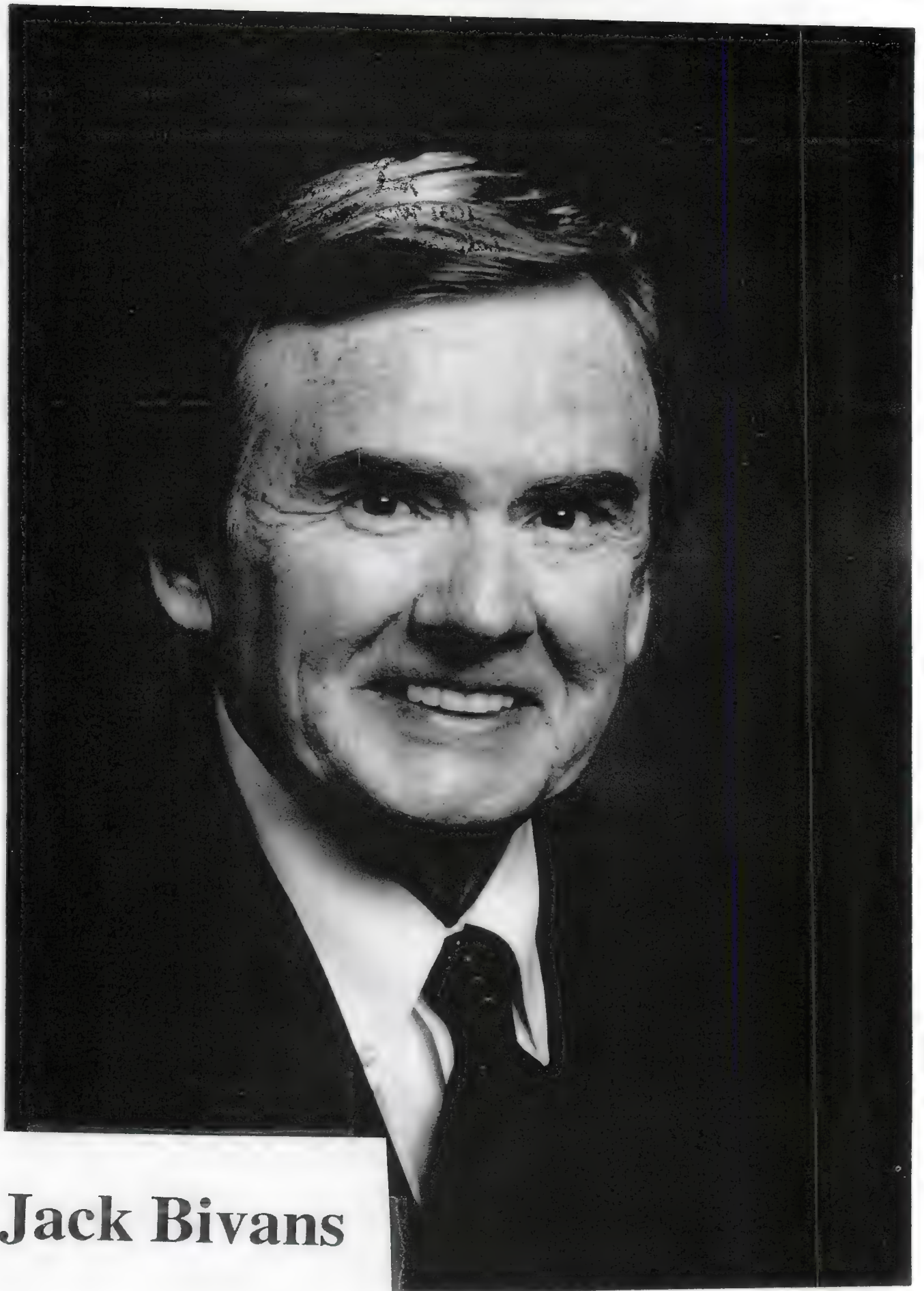
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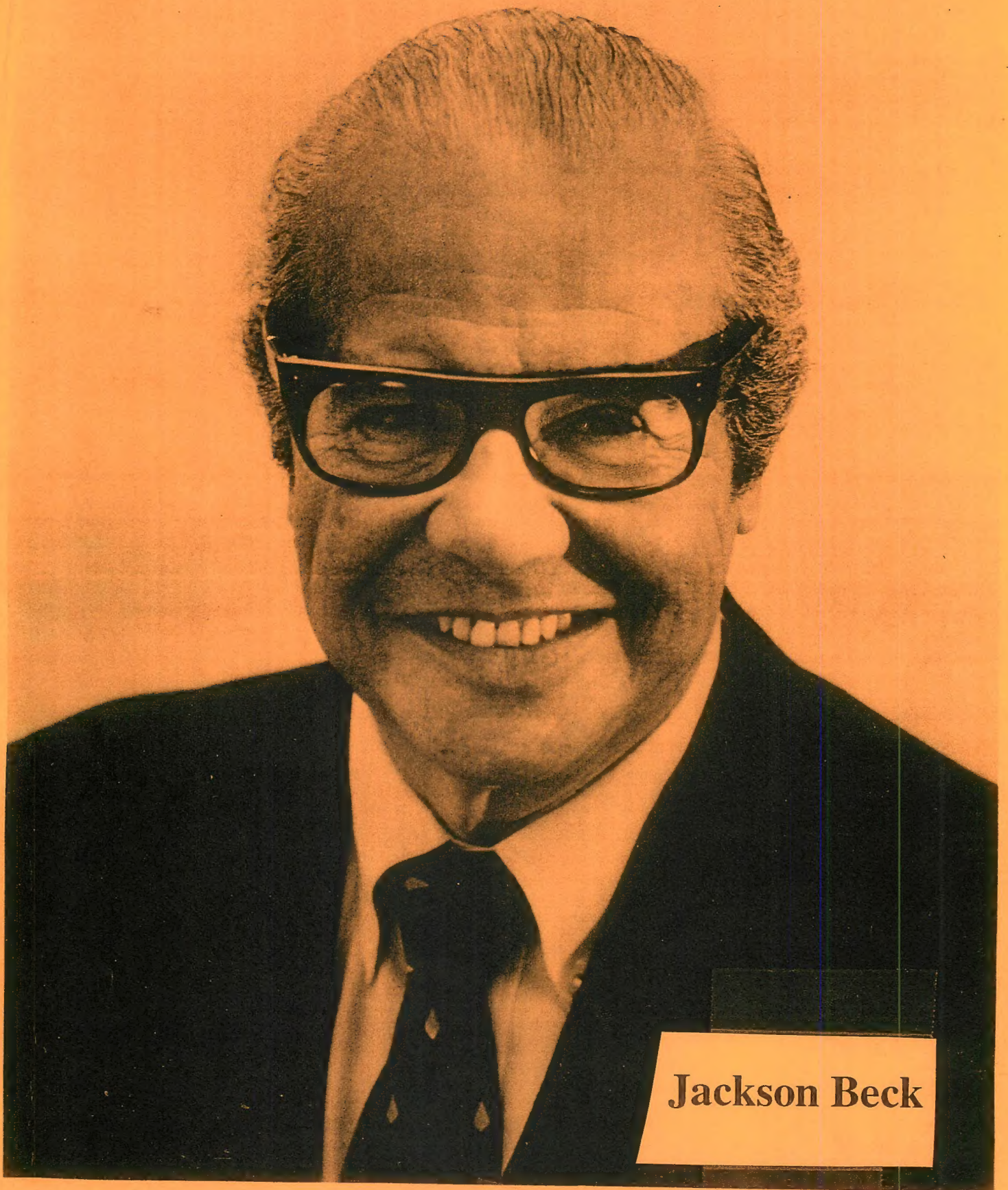
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